

**INCOMING TELEGRAM***Department of State*

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Control: 13196

Rec'd: August 20, 1959

11:23 a.m.

FROM: Baghdad

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 433, August 20, 11 a.m.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 433 REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 78, TEHRAN 60.

Marvin Rowland of Ralph M. Parsons Company, US firm engaged in water supply projects here, tells our Consul that Iranians obstructing normal water supply for Iraqi border town of Khaniqin.

Town draws water from Helwan River, which flows from Iran into Iraq. Dry season flow available Khaniqin normally not less than 5 cubic meters per second. Weir which Iranians have built across river has cut flow to about one tenth normal rate.

Diyala Liwa Mutasarrif summoned Rowland for consultation on possibility digging wells for emergency supply. Mutasarrif told Rowland he had protested to Iranians against breach of agreement on Helwan waters but got no satisfaction.

Comment: If action been ordered from Tehran, possible Iranians trying create counter-irritants to prod Iraqis into settlement Shattal-Arab navigation problems.

JERNEGAN

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